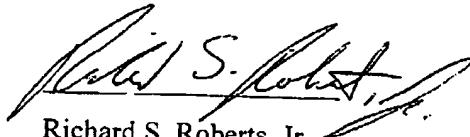


The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview graciously granted on Friday, November 4, 2005, during which the election requirement was discussed. During the interview, the Examiner withdrew the requirement for an election of a single disclosed embodiment for each of components (i) an aliphatic, crystallizable polyamide homopolymer or copolymer or polyamide nanoclay, (ii) a semi-aromatic, crystallizable polyamide, and (iii) a semi-aromatic, amorphous polyamide, indicating that an election of a single embodiment for one of components (i), (ii) or (iii) is acceptable. Applicants hereby provisionally elect the examination of a polyamide composition comprising a polyamide homopolymer from component (i) of claim 1. It is believed that the following claims, which had previously been subjected to a Restriction Requirement, read on the elected species: 1, 4-23. However, the election of species requirement is traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is making too fine a distinction among the various embodiments of the invention.

It should be noted, the Commissioner may statutorily require the election of inventions "[i]f two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one application." In the instant case the Examiner is alleging that plurality of species defined by components (i), (ii) and (iii) are distinct, although absolutely no showing of such distinctness has been made. The Examiner's attention is directed to 37 C.F.R. 1.141(b) where allegedly different classes of inventions may be included and examined in a single application provided they are so linked as to form a single inventive concept. This is exactly the type of case for which the rule as promulgated, i.e., to avoid burdensome and unnecessary elections or

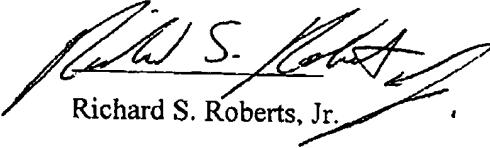
restrictions. For these reasons it is respectfully urged that the election requirement be rescinded.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (FAX No. (571) 273-8300) on November 15, 2005.


Richard S. Roberts, Jr.